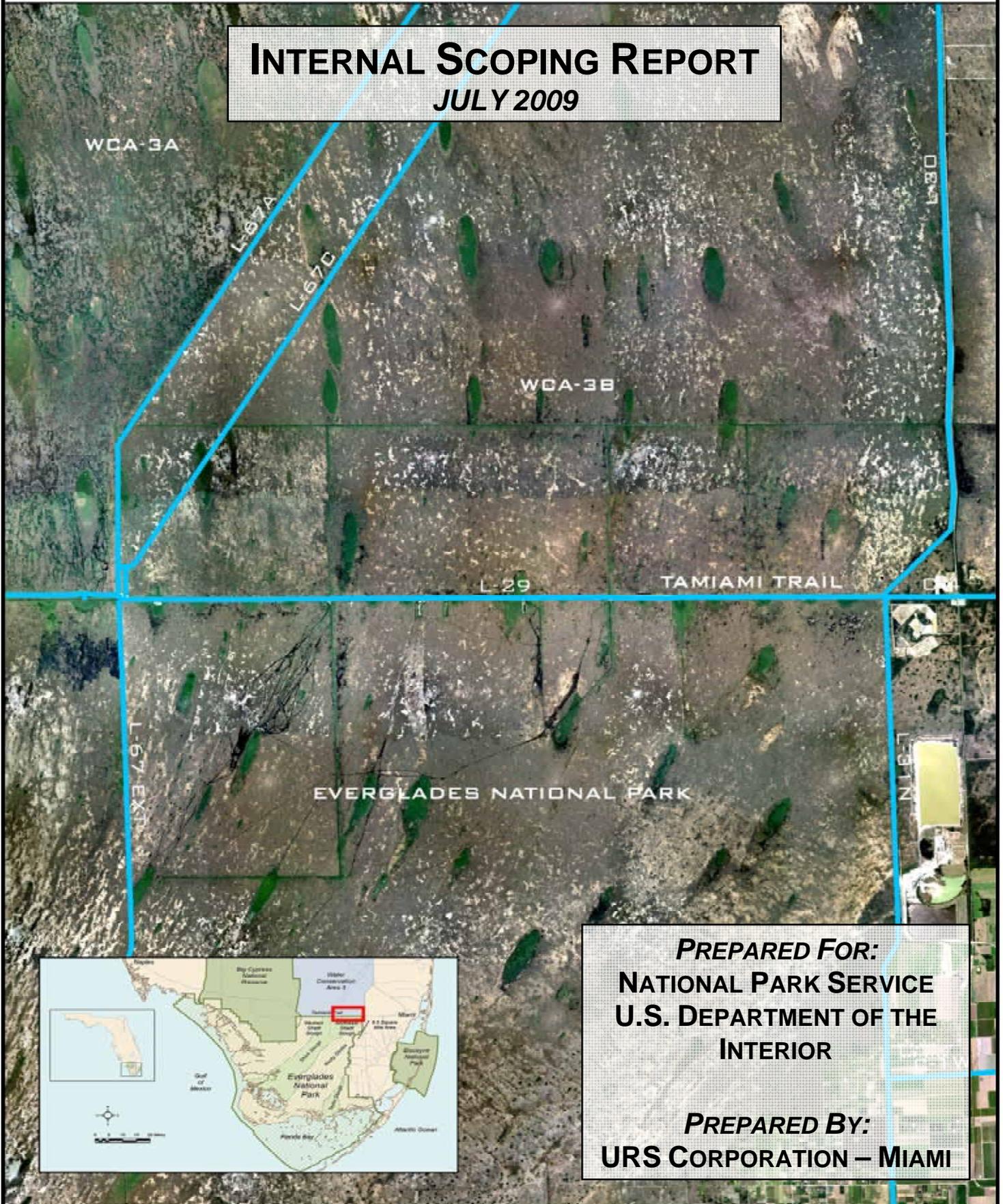


**EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK
TAMIAMI TRAIL MODIFICATIONS:
NEXT STEPS**



INTERNAL SCOPING REPORT
JULY 2009



EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK



PREPARED FOR:
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE
INTERIOR

PREPARED BY:
URS CORPORATION – MIAMI

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

C&SF	Central and Southern Florida Project
CERP	Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan
CFS	Cubic Feet per Second
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
ENP	Everglades National Park
FDOT	Florida Department of Transportation
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
FP&L	Florida Power and Light
GDM	General Design Memorandum
GMP	General Management Plan
GRR	General Reevaluation Report
LRR	Limited Reevaluation Report
MWD	Modified Water Deliveries
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NPS	National Park Service
ROD	Record of Decision
RGRR	Revised General Reevaluation Report
SEIS	Supplement Environmental Impact Statement
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SMA	Square Mile Area
TTM	Tamiami Trail Modifications
URS	URS Corporation
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
WCA	Water Conservation Area
WRDA	Water Resources Development Act



REPORT PURPOSE

This report summarizes the results of a National Park Service (NPS) internal scoping meeting for the Everglades National Park (ENP) “Tamiami Trail Modifications: Next Steps” Project. The internal scoping meeting was conducted on May 20, 2009, at the Krome Center, South Florida Ecosystem Office, Homestead, Florida. A field visit was conducted on May 19, 2009.

This report provides a review of the intent of this project and what it should accomplish, as well as an overview of the issues identified by the internal scoping team. The internal scoping activities provide the basis for developing the purpose, need, and objectives for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and have laid the foundation for the development of alternatives by identifying NPS issues regarding future management.



INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Everglades National Park is one of 391 units of the National Park System administered by the NPS, U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI). Established in 1947, the park's original boundaries contained 460,000 acres. Subsequent legislation increased its size to 1,509,000 acres, including most of Florida Bay. The most recent addition came in 1989 when Congress added 109,506 acres in the East Everglades area of the park.

The Florida Everglades is one of the largest and most complex freshwater wetland ecosystems in the world. The location, timing, duration, and depth of flooding, combined with geology and other factors, determine the distribution and composition of the plant and animal communities of the Everglades. The southernmost end and receiving waters for the 18,000 square mile south Florida everglades ecosystem is ENP. Virtually all waters delivered to the Park other than direct rainfall are provided by the Central and Southern Florida (C&SF) Project, which was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1948 (PL 858, 80th Congress) for flood control, water supply, prevention of salt water intrusion, preservation of fish and wildlife, recreation and navigation. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) began building the C&SF Project in the 1950s. Construction was largely complete by 1962, although some construction continues to this day. The C&SF Project divided the shallow and slow-flowing Everglades wetlands into compartments and installed pumps and gated structures to control flow from one segment to another.

The Tamiami Trail, which was completed in 1928 by the Florida State Road Department [known today as the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)], is an impediment to flow, slowing and blocking water flow south into the southern Everglades and ENP. Additional blocking of direct flow occurred with the 1962 construction of the L-28 and L-29 levees enclosing Water Conservation Areas (WCAs) 3A and 3B and enlargement of the road borrow canal (now called L-29 Canal), as part of the C&SF Project. The cumulative result of construction of Tamiami Trail and the C&SF Project was significant reduction in the volume, timing and duration of water flow to Northeast Shark River Slough.

Until Congress enacted the 1989 Everglades Protection and Expansion Act, ENP was smaller than at present. The large S-12 gate structures on the L-29 Levee at the south end of WCA-3A could deliver high water volumes to ENP itself, but most of Northeast Shark River Slough lay in the undeveloped lands between ENP and the developed areas near the east coast. This area received water only from direct rainfall and through culverts constructed under the roadway. An extension of the L-67 Levee, running along ENP's eastern boundary, restricted flow into Northeast Shark River Slough from the west. Reduced inflows from the north and west resulting from the compartmentalization of the system led to reduction of flooding depths and durations and loss of long-hydroperiod habitats inside ENP. Slough habitat, the unique Everglades wetland complex immortalized as the "river of grass" by Marjory Stoneman Douglas, was among the most adversely impacted by flow reduction.



In response to conservationists' concerns over loss of Everglades values during the 1980s, Congress passed PL 98-191, providing for experimental supplemental deliveries of water to ENP, in 1983. After a series of studies authorized under this Act, it became evident that it would be difficult to increase water deliveries to ENP lands without adversely affecting adjacent agricultural lands. In 1989, Congress passed the Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act (PL 101-229). This Act authorized acquisition of 109,506 acres of privately owned and State lands located south of Tamiami Trail between the L-67 Extension and the L-31 Canal. This area was a major expansion of ENP lands that would eventually allow for their re-hydration; but in 1989, there were minimal structures available to convey water into these newly acquired ENP lands that had previously been kept relatively dry for agricultural and recreational use. Therefore, the Act also directed the USACE to increase flows into ENP to the extent practicable.

The USACE prepared a General Design Memorandum (GDM) and EIS for Modified Water Deliveries (MWD) to ENP. The GDM/EIS was completed in 1992 and included five major components: (1) Flood mitigation for the 8.5 Square Mile Area (SMA), a residential area located just west of the L-31N Levee (the new authorized eastern Park boundary) that would flood if additional water were discharged into the eastern Park extension; (2) Conveyance and seepage control features, designed to facilitate flow from WCA-3A to WCA-3B and from WCA-3B to the L-29 Canal adjacent to Tamiami Trail, and to limit seepage eastward from WCA-3B and ENP into developed areas of Miami-Dade County; (3) Modifications to Tamiami Trail to raise it in the vicinity of the S-334 structure; (4) Raising Tigertail and Osceola Indian Camps to levels above the expected flood levels; and (5) A new operational plan for the water control structures was recommended that would deliver 55 percent of total water volumes east of L-67, and 45 percent to the west, to reflect historic flow paths.

The 1992 GDM/EIS noted that maximum rainy season flow volumes into ENP could reach 4,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) and recommended structures to deliver these flows into the L-29 Canal just north of Tamiami Trail. It did not anticipate that the existing culverts would be inadequate to deliver this volume, and recommended raising the Trail only to accommodate the S-334 and S-356 pump structures (at the far eastern end of the road segment).

Since 1992, ENP has acquired nearly all the additional authorized lands east of the old ENP boundary. A flood mitigation plan for the 8.5 SMA, including relocation of the S-357 pump station, was approved in 2000 and reaffirmed in 2003, and construction is now nearing completion. Tigertail Camp has been raised above the flood elevation. ENP is in dialog with the Osceola group in preparation for raising this camp as well. The S-356 pump station was built as a temporary pump station at the location indicated in the GDM. The S-355A and S-355B spillways, allowing water flow from the south end of WCA-3B into L-29 Canal, have been built. However, the last remaining conveyance and seepage features, the S-349 spillways and S-345 flow structures that would allow flow through the L-67 Levees between WCAs-3A and 3B, remain to be built.



The 2000 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) authorized the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). The restudy of the C&SF Project that led to CERP indicated that further work on reducing barriers to flow in WCA-3 was justified. However, the WRDA also required that the MWD plan be complete before CERP modifications could begin construction.

By the late 1990s it was known that in contrast to the 1992 GDM/EIS assumption, the existing culverts along Tamiami Trail were inadequate to pass MWD design flows, and that operating with no additional conveyance structures would ultimately damage the roadbed. The GDM/EIS merely recommended changing the flow distribution across Tamiami Trail such that 55 percent of total flows would be delivered east of the L-67 Levee and 45 percent delivered to the west. However, subsequent studies showed that, while the design volumes of water could indeed be passed through Tamiami Trail into Northeast Shark River Slough, this flow rate through the culverts would only occur with a high “head” on the north side of the culverts; that is, after water levels on the north side of the road increased enough to force water through. Under current operating conditions, such high levels would occur in the rainy season, except that deliveries are stopped to avoid exceeding a stage of 7.5 feet in L-29 Canal, the level considered safe by FDOT standards. Operational safeguards to prevent damage include closing the S-333 Structure according to stage readings on a gauge south of the Tamiami Trail to avoid high heads in the L-29 Canal. If high levels were to occur regularly or persist for longer periods they would make the road vulnerable to structural damage.

In 2003, a reevaluation of features along the 10.7-mile stretch of Tamiami Trail east of the L-67 Levee recommended a 3,000-foot bridge and a proposed real estate agreement to pay compensation for a flowage easement. The USACE published a General Reevaluation Report (GRR) and Supplemental EIS (SEIS) in 2003 which recommended a 3,000-foot bridge and noted that the original GDM had probably underestimated the design high water stage. The 2003 study used a design water elevation of 9.7 feet. Although this report recommended acquiring a flowage easement over the un-bridged part of Tamiami Trail and compensation to FDOT for damages, no agreement could be reached with FDOT, and the GRR and SEIS were withdrawn without a signed Record of Decision (ROD).

In 2005, a Revised GRR (RGRR) and a second SEIS were prepared which recommended construction of a three-mile, two-bridge alternative and reconstruction of the entire 10.7 mile stretch of Tamiami Trail to accommodate the higher water levels (up to 9.7 foot stage) under the road. After extensive public and agency coordination a ROD identifying the Selected Plan was signed on January 25, 2006. However, the U.S. Congress found the estimated cost of the 2005 recommended plan unacceptable and the Congressional managers drafting the new WRDA (2007) directed the USACE to conduct a reevaluation study.

Under the direction of Congressional managers, a Limited Reevaluation Report (LRR) and Environmental Assessment (EA) were prepared in 2008. The 2008 LRR and EA



recommended features to convey the additional flows from L-29 Canal, north of the Tamiami Trail, south to the ENP. The 2008 LRR/EA recommended the following: (1) Acquisition of the necessary real estate interests required for construction of the project from the Airboat Association of Florida, Florida Power and Light (FP&L) and FDOT; (2) Construction of a one-mile bridge and reinforcement of the remainder of the Tamiami Trail within the project area in order to counteract the project's higher water levels in the L-29 Canal. Road reinforcement is part of the Tamiami Trail Modifications (TTM) and will be paid for by the MWD project. FDOT will contribute \$4.5 million to the road reinforcement as part of their normal maintenance program; and (3) Acquisition of real estate interests from FDOT by means of a relocation agreement within the project area to include a channel easement, a flowage easement, a temporary work area easement and a right-of-entry for construction upon the FDOT lands in order to construct the project features. The Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the LRR and EA was signed in June 2008.

As part of the 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act passed by Congress on March 10, 2009, Congress directed the NPS "to immediately evaluate the feasibility of additional bridge length, beyond that to be constructed pursuant to the Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park Project (16 U.S.C. SS 410r-S), including a continuous bridge, or additional bridges or some combination thereof, for the Tamiami Trail (U.S. Highway 41) to restore more natural water flow to Everglades National Park and Florida Bay and for the purpose of restoring habitat within the Park and the ecological connectivity between the Park and the Water Conservation Areas."

Please see Figure 1, below, for a map of the project location and features. Please see Figure 2, below, for a timeline of the above referenced studies.



Figure 1: Project Location and Features Map

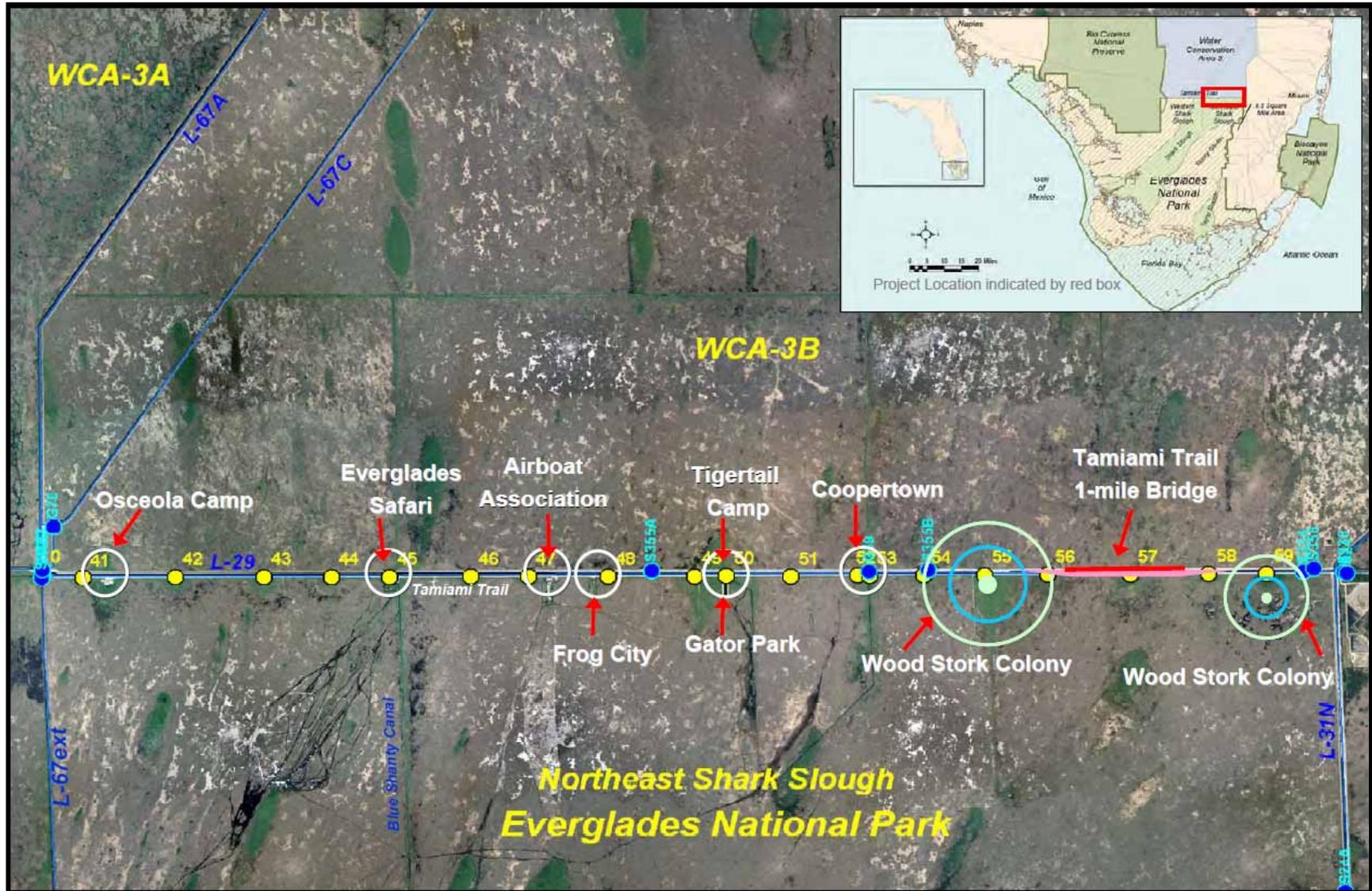
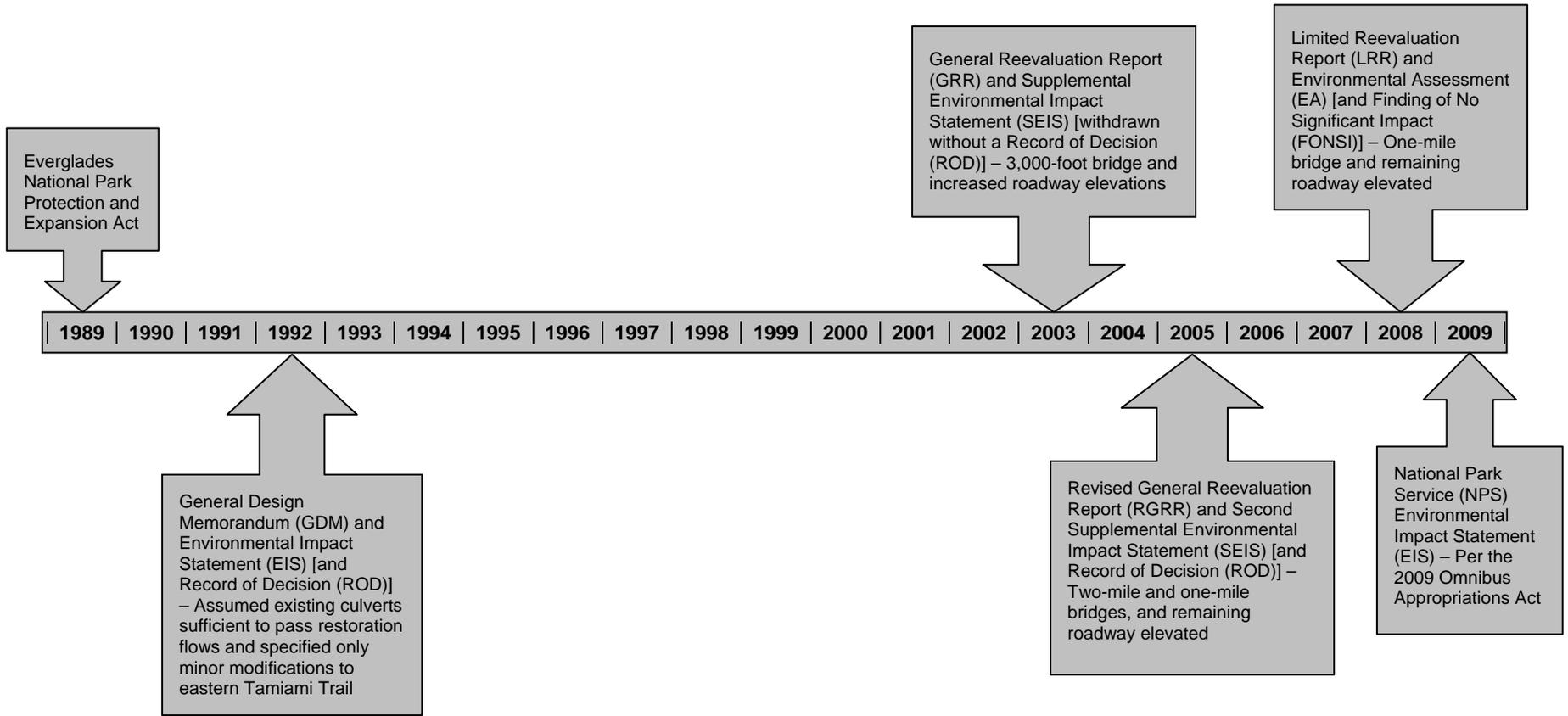


Figure 2: Tamiami Trail Modifications Timeline



INTERNAL SCOPING

The purpose of internal NPS scoping activities was to develop a framework for the planning process and the fundamental foundation (e.g., purpose and need for the plan, plan objectives, area of effect) needed to prepare the EIS for the Tamiami Trail Modifications: Next Steps Project. This scoping supports the planning process by ensuring that the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and NPS Director's Order #12 (NPS 2001) would be fulfilled throughout the planning process.

Prior to the internal scoping meeting, URS Corporation (URS) and NPS ENP staff reviewed the scope of work, assembled a workshop briefing package, and drafted the internal scoping meeting agenda via phone, email conversations, and a pre-internal scoping meeting. A copy of the pre-internal scoping meeting summary is included as Appendix A. A copy of the internal scoping meeting agenda is included in Appendix B. A contact list for the team members present for the meeting at the Krome Center in Homestead, Florida are listed in Table 1, below. The project communication protocols are included in Appendix C for reference. These staff, facilitated by the NPS and the contractor (URS), worked collectively to:

- Define the purpose and need for action for the project
- Define the objectives for the project
- Identify the issues and concerns related to the project
- Discuss and refine the alternatives presented in the 2005 RGRR and the 2008 LRR
- Define the performance measures for the evaluation of alternatives
- Determine which impact topics should be analyzed in the EIS and which impact topics should be dismissed

The scoping process was implemented by recording individual comments and responses to questions posed by the facilitator. The results of the internal scoping team's collaborative efforts are presented under the respective headings found in this report.



Table 1: Internal Scoping Meeting Participants (May 20, 2009)

Name	Firm/Agency	Email
Inger Hansen	Florida Department of Environmental Protection	inger.hansen@dep.state.fl.us
Barbara Culhane	Florida Department of Transportation	barbara.culhane@dot.state.fl.us
Mary Tery Vilches	Florida Department of Transportation – PD&E	mary.vilches@dot.state.fl.us
Bruce Boler	National Park Service	bruce_boler@nps.gov
Gregg Reynolds	National Park Service	gregg_reynolds@nps.gov
Melissa Memory	National Park Service	melissa_memory@nps.gov
Fred Herling	National Park Service	fred_herling@nps.gov
Alice Clarke	National Park Service	alice.clarke@nps.gov
David Sikkema	National Park Service	dave_sikkema@nps.gov
Linda Friar	National Park Service – Everglades National Park	linda_friar@nps.gov
Savannah Howington	National Park Service – Everglades National Park	savannah_howington@nps.gov
Dan Kimball	National Park Service – Everglades National Park	dan_kimball@nps.gov
David Hallac	National Park Service – Everglades National Park	david_hallac@nps.gov
Alicia Logalbo	National Park Service – Everglades National Park	alogalbo@nps.gov
John Leslie	South Florida Water Management District	jleslie@sfwmd.gov
Dewey Worth	South Florida Water Management District	dworth@sfwmd.gov
Ernie Clarke	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	ernest.clarke@usace.army.mil
Steve Nguyen	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	steve_nguyen@usace.army.mil
Brad Foster	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	bradley.a.foster@usace.army.mil
Gwen Nelson	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	gwendolyn.j.nelson@usace.army.mil
Susan Conner	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	susan.l.conner@usace.army.mil
Kevin Palmer	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	kevin_palmer@fws.gov
Keith Stannard	URS Corporation	keith_stannard@urscorp.com
Dan Levy	URS Corporation	dan_levy@urscorp.com
Tom Lodge	URS Corporation	tel_ea@bellsouth.net
Valerie Chartier	URS Corporation	valerie_chartier@urscorp.com
Lilian Maggi	URS Corporation	lilian_flank_maggi@urscorp.com
Chris Reed	URS Corporation	chris_reed@urscorp.com



Site Visit

A field visit was conducted on May 19, 2009. National Park Service staff and URS personnel participated in the site visit. The site visit consisted of visits to the following locations along Tamiami Trail:

- S-334 structure
- 3 airboat operators
- 2 radio towers
- Swale project culverts
- 2008 LRR bridge location
- S-333 structure

Project Timeline

<i>Complete Project Management Plan</i>	<i>May 12, 2009</i>
<i>Internal Scoping Meetings</i>	<i>May 18 – 20, 2009</i>
<i>Internal Scoping Report</i>	<i>June 10, 2009</i>
<i>30-day Public Scoping Period</i>	<i>May 14 – June 12, 2009</i>
<i>Public Scoping Meeting</i>	<i>June 2, 2009</i>
<i>Public Scoping Report</i>	<i>June 22, 2009</i>
<i>Finalize Range of Alternatives</i>	<i>July 15, 2009</i>
<i>Update Ecological Benefits Analysis</i>	<i>August 5, 2009</i>
<i>Choosing by Advantages Workshop</i>	<i>September 11, 2009</i>
<i>Complete Feasibility Report and Technical Analyses</i>	<i>September 20, 2009</i>
<i>Update Coordination Act Report</i>	<i>October 23, 2009</i>
<i>Draft EIS Submitted for Public Review</i>	<i>December 8, 2009</i>
<i>Complete Executive Summary of Draft EIS</i>	<i>March 10, 2010</i>
<i>Complete Draft EIS</i>	<i>March 22, 2010</i>
<i>Complete Final EIS</i>	<i>September 1, 2010</i>



PROBLEMS, OPPORTUNITIES, OBJECTIVES, AND CONSTRAINTS

Problems

The fundamental problem identified in previous Tamiami Trail reports remains the same for the Tamiami Trail Modifications: Next Steps Project. The problem is a loss of much of the deepest, longest hydroperiod habitat inside ENP as a result of changes to the hydrology of the system. The Tamiami Trail roadway acts as a barrier to flow, reducing flows to the south, shortening the period of inundation (the hydroperiod), and substantially lowering the natural variability in the hydroperiod. Hydrologic changes began when the Tamiami Trail was built in 1929, but became worse after the WCAs were enclosed (circa 1962), further cutting off natural flow paths from WCA-3A to WCA-3B, concentrating southward flows west of Northeast Shark River Slough, south of WCA-3A, and cutting off flows from WCA-3B to the L-29 borrow canal and into the eastern Everglades area. At the time that the WCAs were compartmentalized, the area east of S-333 was not part of ENP and was destined for agriculture. Therefore, it was desired to route water away from this area. The 1989 Everglades Protection and Expansion Act changed the purpose of lands east of the S-333 and the L-67 Extension Levee from agriculture and private ownership to the NPS, and further directed the USACE to restore the eastern Everglades' hydrology to the extent practicable. The L-29 Levee, L-29 Canal, and Tamiami Trail together create barriers that obstruct the free movement of water, aquatic organisms and wildlife between ENP and WCA-3B.

Adverse impacts at the landscape level have been caused by drainage and obstruction of natural flow pathways. A gradual loss of elevation difference between the tops of the ridges and slough bottoms have created a flatter, more uniform topography, which has led to conversion of plant cover to a more uniform sawgrass dominated community with fewer tree islands. In addition, major interruptions to ecological connectivity between the WCAs and the ENP, as well as animal mortality along the Tamiami Trail have resulted from the obstruction. It is certain that natural ENP systems would not recover their defining attributes under current conditions.

Opportunities

The Tamiami Trail Modifications: Next Steps Project is part of an effort to restore the natural flows of water to ENP to the extent practicable. Similar to the opportunities discussed in the 2005 RGRR and 2008 LRR, the Tamiami Trail Modifications: Next Steps Project offers the opportunity for water conveyance to ENP with fewer obstructions to flows. This project includes opportunities to:

- Allow delivery of more water into the eastern ENP and Northeast Shark River Slough, restoring the balance of distribution between eastern and western deliveries.
- Restore seasonal flooding and timing of deliveries that would enhance suitability for native vegetation and decrease the potential for invasive species colonization.



At present most rainy season deliveries into the ENP are through the S-12 structures, located west of the L-67 Levee. Transfer of water delivery location to the east would benefit western sparrow populations while allowing late rainy season deliveries to continue for a longer season.

- Increase the quantity of freshwater flows to Northeast Shark River Slough. The added additional flows into the slough would increase the quality and quantity of ridge and slough habitat.

Objectives

“Objectives” are specific purpose statements that describe what must be accomplished to a large degree for the action to be considered a success. The NPS must state objectives clearly since they define the appropriate range of alternatives.

Based on a consideration of the purpose for the project, the problems occurring and the opportunities available to accomplish restoration goals, the following project objectives were developed by the NPS ENP staff and will be used in the analysis of alternatives:

- Restore more natural water flow to ENP
 - Construct additional bridging and road raising of the Tamiami Trail to provide for unconstrained flows to Northeast Shark River Slough and Florida Bay
- Restore ecological connectivity
 - Improve ecological connectivity by removing obstructions to sheet flow
 - Enhance unobstructed movement of animals between the north and south of Tamiami Trail
- Restore habitat within ENP
 - Restore slough vegetation and the deep water sloughs
 - Restore processes that produce and maintain ridge and slough communities in ENP east of the L-67 Extension

Constraints

The NPS is conducting this project under leadership guidance provided by the DOI. This guidance and the associated constraints for the project are as follows:

- Authority for this project is from the 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act and therefore is not a MWD or CERP project component. Features identified in the recommended plan, however, will be compatible with these projects since they will be designed for unconstrained flow
- Congress has designated the NPS as the lead on the project and therefore this will be an NPS EIS
- Since NPS has not completed its General Management Plan (GMP), NPS will assume that all alternatives will provide access to the existing facilities on this portion of the road corridor



- Internal scoping resulted in the recommendation of the use of spans-like structures (prefabricated culverts) as potentially a more cost effective way to meet the congressional intent of improved connectivity
- Since the 2009 Omnibus Bill authorized the implementation of the plan selected in the 2008 LRR, NPS will assume that this is the No-Action Alternative
- The project will also update the costs associated with the completion of the remaining land acquisition in the expansion area and these costs will be included as a project cost
- There is no cost cap for the preferred alternative
- NPS will re-evaluate appropriate alternatives from the 2005 RGRR and 2008 LRR, but explore the potential to use additional alternatives
- NPS will rely heavily on the 2005 RGRR and 2008 LRR analyses – there is no time for new modeling of alternatives, or operational evaluations
- NPS will explore the use of more recent modeling to better depict the ecological bridging and raising the trail
- The design high water for the L-29 Canal should allow for unconstrained flows under Tamiami Trail



PURPOSE AND NEED

The draft project purpose and need was developed as part of the internal scoping process. A more detailed description of the purpose and need for the project will be developed as part of preparation of Chapter 1 of the EIS.

Draft Project Purpose

“Purpose” is an overarching statement of what the plan must do to be considered a success.

The following project purpose was developed as part of the 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act passed by Congress on March 10, 2009, and will be used in the analysis of alternatives:

The NPS proposes:

“To immediately evaluate the feasibility of additional bridge length, beyond that to be constructed pursuant to the Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park Project (16 U.S.C. SS 410r-S), including a continuous bridge, or additional bridges or some combination thereof, for the Tamiami Trail (U.S. Highway 41) to restore more natural water flow to Everglades National Park and Florida Bay and for the purpose of restoring habitat within the Park and the ecological connectivity between the Park and the Water Conservation Areas.”

Draft Project Need

“Need” is an overarching statement of why action is required. It can be a problem that needs to be fixed; a condition that needs to be changed; an available opportunity; or a plan that needs to be implemented.

The following project need was developed with the NPS ENP staff and will be used in the analysis of alternatives:

The need for the action is the same as cited in the Mod Waters Tamiami Trail Modification 2003 GRR, 2005 RGRR, and 2008 LRR:

“In its current condition, the segment of Tamiami Trail located between S-334 on the east and S-333 on the west has inadequate capacity to deliver the volumes of water required to restore ENP and in Northeast Shark River Slough without risking damage to the roadbed and its eventual degradation and causing a backwater impact on WCA-3B potentially drowning tree islands. The recommended plan must address: (1) measures to increase conveyance of water to Northeast Shark River Slough, and (2) modifications to the existing roadbed, if any, required to allow this conveyance.”



PROJECT ALTERNATIVES AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Project Alternatives

Per the DOI guidance discussed above in the Constraints Section, NPS was directed to re-evaluate appropriate alternatives from the 2005 RGRR, but explore the potential to use additional alternatives. Each of the alternatives from the 2005 RGRR was modified to remove the one-mile eastern bridge portion of each alternative since this plan was approved for construction per the 2008 LRR. Therefore, the one-mile eastern bridge approved for construction per the 2008 LRR is the “No-Action” Alternative for this project. Modified Alternatives 9 through 17 (referred to as the “Old Alternatives”) from the 2005 RGRR were evaluated during the internal scoping process and Old Alternatives 10, 12, 13, 14, and 17 were retained for analysis in the EIS. Old Alternatives 9, 11, 15, and 16 were dismissed for the following reasons:

- Old Alternative 9 – This alternative was dismissed from consideration in the EIS because the length of bridging was too minimal (once the 2008 LRR Preferred Action Alternative one-mile bridge was removed from the alternative) to be cost efficient for analysis and construction.
- Old Alternative 11 – This alternative was dismissed from consideration in the EIS because currently, the greatest amount of water flow occurs through culverts at the eastern end of the project area due to the proximity to the L-31 canal; therefore, the greatest benefit would be provided by constructing a bridge/span in another location that does not currently receive as great amount of water flow.
- Old Alternative 15 – This alternative was dismissed from consideration in the EIS because the length of bridging was too minimal (once the 2008 LRR Preferred Action Alternative one-mile bridge was removed from the alternative) to be cost efficient for analysis and construction.
- Old Alternative 16 – This alternative was dismissed from consideration in the EIS because the length of bridging was too minimal (once the 2008 LRR Preferred Action Alternative one-mile bridge was removed from the alternative) to be cost efficient for analysis and construction.

Furthermore, one additional alternative (referred to as Modified Alternative 1B) was developed to be analyzed in the EIS. A brief summary of each of the alternatives retained for consideration in the EIS is presented below. The alternatives have been renumbered for ease of discussion in the EIS.

- No Action Alternative (2008 LRR Preferred/Recommended Alternative): This “no-action” alternative consists of implementation of the 2008 LRR Plan, which consists of a one-mile eastern bridge with the remaining road raised to allow for 8.5-foot stage in the L-29 Canal.
- Action Alternative 1 (Old Alternative 10): This alternative consists of two 1.5-mile bridges east and west of the Tiger Tail Camp with the remaining road raised to allow 9.7-foot stage in the L-29 Canal.



- Action Alternative 2 (Modified Alternative 1B): This alternative consists of approximately 4.0 miles of bridges and conspans with the remaining road raised to allow 9.7-foot stage in the L-29 Canal.
- Action Alternative 3 (Old Alternative 12): This alternative consists of two one-mile bridges east and west of the Tiger Tail Camp with the remaining road raised to allow 9.7-foot stage in the L-29 Canal.
- Action Alternative 4 (Old Alternative 13): This alternative consists of a one-mile long western bridge with the remaining road raised to allow 9.7-foot stage in the L-29 Canal.
- Alternative 5 (Old Alternative 14): This alternative consists of a 1.5-mile bridge west of Everglades Safari Park and a 0.5-mile conspan east of Everglades Safari Park with the remaining road raised to allow 9.7-foot stage in the L-29 Canal.
- Action Alternative 6 (Old Alternative 17): This alternative consists of maximized bridging except for Osceola and Tiger Tail Camps (approximately 6.0 miles) with the remaining road raised to allow 9.7-foot stage in the L-29 Canal.

Performance Measures

The following performance measures from the 2005 RGRR and 2008 LRR were retained for use in the EIS:

1. Restore water deliveries to ENP
 - Flow volumes
 - Proportion of area within 1 mile of Tamiami Trail with marsh flow velocity (<0.1 f/s)
 - Connectivity of L-29 Canal to NESS, % of total length
 - Distribution of flows, east to west
2. Restore ridge and slough processes
 - Difference between average velocity in marsh and average velocity at road
 - Reverse filling in of sloughs
 - Enhance flows from L-29 Canal into deep sloughs of NESS
3. Restore vegetative communities
 - Shift to open water, spikerush marsh, and slough communities in NESS
 - Risk of ridge and tree island peat burning in NESS
 - Invasion of exotic woody plant species
4. Restore fish and wildlife resources
 - Total abundance of fishes in ENP marshes
 - Conditions for wading bird foraging and nesting
 - Reduction in wildlife mortality



ISSUES AND IMPACT TOPICS

Issues

Issues are concerns or topics that need to be considered in the course of developing a successful management strategy that is consistent with governing laws, regulations, and policies and park resources. Issues need to be addressed in the analysis of the proposed management action and its alternatives. Although in some cases the issues may appear repetitive, scoping team members identified subtle differences and asked that all of the following be retained. During the Internal Scoping Meeting, the entire project team identified the issues listed in Table 2, which are generally organized by impact topic, to be addressed in the EIS for the project.

Impact Topics

Discussions during internal scoping examined the range of potential natural and cultural resources that might be of concern or might be affected during the planning and impact assessment processes. Table 2 below presents the impact topics from the NPS Environmental Screening Form (Appendix D) and the associated issues/comments discussed during the internal scoping meeting. The rationale for the anticipated impact will be presented in the Environmental Impact Statement for the project. Decisions regarding the anticipated impact are subject to change as the planning process continues.

Table 2: Internal Scoping Meeting Issues and Impact Topics

Impact Topic	Comments	Summary
Geological resources – soils, bedrock, streambeds, etc.	The soils under the western side of the project area are “worse” (not as stable for a bridge foundation) than the rest of the project area, which would have an impact on cost for Old Alternative 14 (G. Nelson, USACE)	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.
	Soil excavation would occur with any of the proposed project alternatives (A. Logalbo, NPS)	
	The USACE has soil boring reports and recent soil cores available (G. Nelson, USACE)	
Geohazards	Large excavations or sinkholes could be considered geohazards	Impact topic will not be analyzed individually in the EIS, but will be included in the analysis of “geological resources.” Rationale for dismissal will be included in the EIS.
Air Quality	FDOT does a yearly traffic study, which can be used for air quality analysis (G. Nelson, USACE)	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.
	Air screening analysis will be conducted per FDOT criteria (K. Stannard, URS)	



Impact Topic	Comments	Summary
Soundscapes	Topic should be analyzed for soundscape impacts in regards to threatened and endangered species – information from the 2005 and 2008 documents can be utilized (K. Palmer, USFWS)	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.
Water quality or quantity	ENP requires that water quality standards are zero NTUs above ambient/background	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.
Streamflow characteristics	No comments	Impact topic will not be analyzed individually in the EIS, but will be included in the analysis of “hydrology.” Rationale for dismissal will be included in the EIS.
Hydrology	“Hydrology” will be analyzed as an impact topic instead of “streamflow characteristics”	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.
	Connectivity of areas upstream and downstream of the project area should be discussed	
	Reference changes in WCA 3A and 3B and indirect benefits after project is implemented (benefits to water control operations) (D. Sikkema, NPS)	
	Look at impacts to WCA3A, WCA3B, and western Shark Slough (I. Hansen, FDEP)	
Floodplains or wetlands	Extensive wetlands exist within the project area.	Both “floodplains” and “wetlands” will be analyzed in the EIS.
	Potential for restoration benefits upstream / downstream (indirect impacts)	
	Look at impacts to WCA3A, WCA3B, and western Shark Slough (I. Hansen, FDEP)	
Marine or estuarine resources	No marine resources exist within the project area.	Impact topic will not be analyzed individually in the EIS, but will be included in the analysis of “hydrology” and “species of special concern.” Rationale for dismissal will be included in the EIS.
	Enhanced flows to Florida Bay could be considered a marine/estuarine resource (F. Herling, NPS)	
	Manatees could be present in the L-29 Canal	
Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use	Change in land use via acquisition of parcels	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.
	Ridge and slough landscape	
Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine	No rare or unusual vegetation exists within the project area	Impact topic will not be analyzed individually in the EIS, but will be included in the analysis of “species of special concern.” Rationale for dismissal will be included in the EIS.
	Listed plant species will be analyzed as part of “species of special concern”	
Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat	Needs to be analyzed for the following species - wood storks, manatee, panther, white ibis, Everglades mink, snail kite, sparrow, etc.	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.



Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites	ENP is a “unique ecosystem” with several designations (i.e. World Heritage Site, International Biosphere Reserve, Wilderness Area, Ramsar Wetland of International Importance)	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.
Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat	Impact topic will be analyzed as part of “species of special concern”	Impact topic will not be analyzed individually in the EIS, but will be included in the analysis of “species of special concern.” Rationale for dismissal will be included in the EIS.
Unique, essential, or important fish or fish habitat	No unique, essential, or important fish or fish habitat occur in the project area	Impact topic will not be analyzed in the EIS. Rationale for dismissal will be included in the EIS.
Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal)	Non-native species prevalent throughout the project area (Brazilian pepper, lygodium, fish, apple snails, pythons, etc.)	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.
Recreational resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.	Recreational uses (airboating, fishing) occur within the project area	Impact topic will not be analyzed individually in the EIS, but will be included in the analysis of “visitor use and experience.” Rationale for dismissal will be included in the EIS.
Visitor experience, aesthetic resources	<p>Vista management project should be discussed as part of this impact topic</p> <p>As we move the EIS forward, we will be able to evaluate each of the proposed alternatives in terms of potential value (benefit/detriment) for potential future visitor use features.</p> <p>The management responsibility (e.g., NPS, FDOT, or private entity) of potential visitor use features will be determined at a later date.</p> <p>Details of potential future visitor use features will be determined in the GMP.</p> <p>Potential visitor use amenities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bike path • Walkway/Trail • Scenic overlook • Visitor kiosk • Parking area 	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.
Archaeological resources	2008 MOA between ENP and SHPO should be used for guidance (M. Memory, NPS)	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.
Prehistoric/historic structures	Analyze topic as part of “archaeological resources” (M. Memory, NPS)	Impact topic will not be analyzed individually in the EIS, but will be included in the analysis of “archaeological resources.” Rationale for dismissal will be included in the EIS.



Cultural landscapes	Analyze topic as part of “archaeological resources” (M. Memory, NPS)	Impact topic will not be analyzed individually in the EIS, but will be included in the analysis of “archaeological resources.” Rationale for dismissal will be included in the EIS.
Ethnographic resources	Analyze topic as part of “archaeological resources” (M. Memory, NPS)	Impact topic will not be analyzed individually in the EIS, but will be included in the analysis of “archaeological resources.” Rationale for dismissal will be included in the EIS.
Museum collections (objects, specimens, and archival and manuscript collections)	No museum collections exist within the project area.	Impact topic will not be analyzed in the EIS. Rationale for dismissal will be included in the EIS.
Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure	Impacts to commercial airboat operators should be discussed/analyzed	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.
Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.	Subsistence fishing should be discussed	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.
Energy resources	FPL/SFWMD/USACE have an agreement for the 1-mile Tamiami Trail bridge for power transmission lines, which would carry over to this project, but this is a design issue. Recommend keeping this topic because of rookery areas.	Impact topic will not be analyzed individually in the EIS, but will be included in the analysis of “construction impacts.” Rationale for dismissal will be included in the EIS.
Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies	Tribal lands exist within the project area	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.
Resource, including energy, conservation potential, sustainability	Analyze ways to maximize use of materials / design / location (F. Herling, NPS)	Impact topic will not be analyzed individually in the EIS, but will be included in the analysis of all other impact topics. Rationale for dismissal will be included in the EIS.
Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.	Tamiami Trail will still provide access with any of the project alternatives, so impacts will be negligible More visitors may be attracted by the bridge (view of Everglades) – beneficial impact (D. Hallac, NPS) Indian tribes are gateway communities Construction impacts should be considered, but will be short-term and temporary.	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.



Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity	FDOT would own roadway/bridges and would be responsible for maintenance (B. Culhane, FDOT)	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.
	Vista, pull-off, and other visitor use issues will be addressed in the GMP or other documents, not in the EIS, but will be mentioned in EIS	
	Stormwater system should be mentioned	
Climate change and sea level rise	No comments	Impact topic will be analyzed in the EIS.
Construction	Construction impacts will be analyzed as part of each of the individual impact topics	Impact topic will not be analyzed individually in the EIS, but will be included in the analysis of all other impact topics. Rationale for dismissal will be included in the EIS.



REFERENCES

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Department of the Interior and Everglades National Park, National Park Service (NPS). June 2008. *Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park, Tamiami Trail Modifications, Final Limited Reevaluation Report and Environmental Assessment.*

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Department of the Interior. November 2005. *Central And Southern Florida Project, Final Revised General Reevaluation Report Second Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, (RGRR/SEIS), Tamiami Trail Modifications, Modified Water Deliveries to Everglades National Park, Florida.*



APPENDIX A: PRE-INTERNAL SCOPING MEETING SUMMARY

Tamiami Trail Modifications: Next Steps Meeting Summary

To: Attendees
From: Ernie Clarke
Subject: Internal scoping held on at 9AM on 5/18/09 at Everglades National Park (ENP) headquarters

Attendees:

Bruce Boler, ENP	Dan Kimball, ENP
Valerie Chartier, URS Corp	Dan Levy, URS Corp
Ernie Clarke, ENP/Corps of Eng. Liaison	Melissa Memory, ENP
Fred Herling, ENP	Bill Perry, ENP
Bob Johnson, ENP	Dave Sikkema, ENP

Summary:

- Aim was to collect staff concerns, questions and comments on the recently initiated study titled “Enabling Northeast Shark River Slough Restoration”.
- Project Manager Bruce Boler presented information on the study purpose, objectives, alternatives, major tasks and deliverables. Bruce also discussed Department of Interior (DOI) leadership guidance for the study and how the study fits into DOI’s restoration vision.
- Attendees had the following recommended changes on the MS PowerPoint presentation:
 - Dan suggested different wording for the inclusion of an additional alternative on slide titled “DOI Leadership Guidance”.
 - On the same slide, Bob asked that the NPS intent to acquire all necessary real estate be explicitly stated.
 - On slide titled “Vision for Restoration”, group agrees that dates should be removed.
 - Dave suggested that CBA be added to the slide titled “Major Deliverables/Milestones”.
 - Add Coopertown to slide titled “Major Tasks for ENP”.
- Attendees raised the following points with the study:
 - Bob pointed out that the flows across Tamiami Trail anticipated with the River of Grass (ROG) initiative are expected to be greater than the assumption under Modified Water Deliveries. These flows should be considered in the present study especially since they will provide added justification for investing funds in the effort. ROG flows will bolster the project benefits. ROG flows will be available in fall 2009.
 - Bob suggested that existing CERP performance measure could be used to evaluate the broader, regional, benefits of the project.
 - Melissa provided a summary of private property along the trail:



- Airboat Association – can't be acquired; additional information on the property is needed to evaluate eligibility/impacts. NPS will be responsible for evaluation and consultation on this site;
- Coopertown – documented historic property, but needs architectural update.
- Osceola Camp – cultural resource evaluation of the property needs to happen quickly; the evaluation and consultation on this site will be an ENP responsibility.
- Tree islands – make an affirmative statement about the potential benefit of the project to this resource in Water Conservation Area 3A and NESRS if supporting information exists.
 - Preferred alternative for the General Management Plan will not be publically identified during the completion of the subject study.
 - Study name is not ideal; study will benefit a broader system.
- Points raised that don't pertain directly to the present study:
 - The Combined Operations Plan needs to be added to the DOI restoration vision



APPENDIX B: AGENDA FOR INTERNAL SCOPING WORKSHOP

Tamiami Trail Modifications: Next Steps Internal Scoping Meeting May 20, 2009

Agenda

Meeting Goals and Objectives

- Develop more detailed project purpose, need and objectives statements
- Identify project approach and agency roles/responsibilities
- Identify potential project alternatives, including any new alternatives that may be required for 4(f) analysis
- Clarify relationship of the TT2/EIS to the GMP/EIS regarding real estate needs/assumptions for airboat tour companies.
- Identify issues, concerns that need to be addressed in the NEPA process
- Identify any ongoing or new project issues
- Review schedule of deliverables

9:00 – 9:10 a.m. — Introductions

9:10 – 10:30 a.m. — Project Presentation (Bruce Boler, ENP)

- Project authority and linkages to other restoration projects
- Draft purpose, need, and objectives
- Potential alternatives
- NPS/DOI guidance and assumptions
- Project approach and agency roles/responsibilities
- Project Schedule

10:30 – 12:00 a.m. — Project Discussion Topics

- Project Issues and Questions: Identify stakeholder issues, concerns that need to be addressed in the NEPA process
- Additional Alternatives: Discuss alternatives under consideration, including new alternatives that may be required for 4(f) analysis
- Utilization of information and performance measures from 2005 and 2008 documents
- Other information sources which need to be considered

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. — Lunch

1:00 – 3:00 p.m. — Continue Discussion Topics

- Discuss relationship of the TT2/EIS to the GMP/EIS regarding real estate needs/assumptions for airboat tour companies. Real estate needs/impacts were not addressed in the 2005 RGRR/EIS.
- Finalize recommended Purpose, Need, and Objectives: Review/refine draft purpose, need and objectives statements
- Areas for agency collaboration
- Next steps



APPENDIX C: COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS

- URS will retain all emails between NPS and URS
- URS will document all pertinent phone conversations
- Calls between topic experts are authorized
- Policy questions should be addressed to Patrick Kenney and Bruce Boler
- NPS generated emails related to project will be copied to Patrick Kenney, Bruce Boler, and Dave Sikkema
- Any reports, analyses, or items related to decision-making need to be copied to the NPS Planning and Compliance Office (URS to retain)



C. POTENTIAL RESOURCE EFFECTS TO CONSIDER *(Please see section F (Instructions for Determining Appropriate NEPA Pathway) prior to completing this section. Also, use the process described in DO-12, 2.9 and 2.10; 3.5; 4.5(G) to (G)(5) and 5.4 F to help determine the context, duration, and intensity of effects on resources.)*

Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural or cultural resources? ¹	No Effect	Negligible Effects	Minor Effects	Exceeds Minor Effects	Data Needed to Determine
Geological resources – soils, bedrock, streambeds, etc.					
From geohazards					
Air quality					
Soundscapes					
Water quality or quantity					
Streamflow characteristics					
Marine or estuarine resources					
Floodplains or wetlands					
Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use					
Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine					
Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat					
Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites					
Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat					
Unique, essential or important fish or fish habitat					
Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal)					
Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.					
Visitor experience, aesthetic resources					
Archeological resources					
Prehistoric/historic structures					
Cultural landscapes					
Ethnographic resources					
Museum collections (objects, specimens, and archival and manuscript collections)					
Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure					
Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.					
Energy resources					
Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies					



D. MANDATORY CRITERIA

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
A. Have material adverse effects on public health or safety?			
B. Have adverse effects on such unique characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands; floodplains; or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the National Register of Natural Landmarks?			
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects?			
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?			
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?			
F. Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects? (<i>Note: consider specific occurrences of past impacts to resources in your analysis.</i>)			
G. Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places?			
H. Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species?			
I. Require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act?			
J. Threaten to violate a federal, state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?			
K. Involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA sec. 102(2)(E))?			
L. Have a disproportionate, significant adverse effect on low-income or minority populations (EO 12898)?			
M. Restrict access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007)?			
N. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of federally listed noxious weeds (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act)?			
O. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of non-native invasive species or actions that may promote the introduction, growth or expansion of the range of non-native invasive species (EO 13112)?			
P. Require a permit from a federal, state, or local agency to proceed, unless the agency from which the permit is required agrees that a CE is appropriate?			
Q. Have the potential for significant impact as indicated by a federal, state, or local agency or Indian tribe?			
R. Have the potential to be controversial because of disagreement over possible environmental effects?			
S. Have the potential to violate the NPS Organic Act by impairing park resources or values?			



E. OTHER INFORMATION (Please answer the following questions/provide requested information.)

Are personnel preparing this form familiar with the site? Yes No

Did personnel visit site? Yes No (If yes, attach meeting notes re: when site visit took place, who attended, etc.)

Is the project in an approved plan such as a General Management Plan or an Implementation Plan with an accompanying NEPA document? Yes No If so, plan name _____

Is the project still consistent with the approved plan? Yes No (If no, you may need to prepare plan/EA or EIS.)

Is the environmental document accurate and up-to-date? Yes No (If no, you may need to prepare plan/EA or EIS.)

FONSI ROD (Check one) Date approved _____

Are there any interested or affected agencies or parties? Yes No

Did you make a diligent effort to contact them? Yes No NA

Has consultation with all affected agencies or tribes been completed? Yes No NA (If yes, attach additional pages re: consultations, including the name, dates, and a summary of comments from other agencies or tribal contacts.)

Are there any connected, cumulative, or similar actions as part of the proposed action (e.g. other development projects in area or identified in GMP, adequate/available utilities to accomplish project)? Yes No (If yes, attach additional pages detailing the other actions.)

Is implementation of the project likely to disturb human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony, as defined by the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA)? Yes No (If yes, please answer the following two questions.)

Is an approved plan of action in place to address inadvertent discoveries of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony? Yes No (If no, how will inadvertent discoveries be dealt with?)

Will the project result in the **intentional** excavation of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony? Yes No (If yes, notify the regional ethnographer. Remember—intentional excavation can only proceed after consultation with affiliated Indian tribes, and the excavation must be done in accordance with the Archeological Resources Protection Act and its implementing regulations.)

F. INSTRUCTIONS FOR DETERMINING APPROPRIATE NEPA PATHWAY

Complete the following tasks: conduct a site visit or ensure that staff is familiar with the site's specifics; consult with affected agencies, and/or tribes; and interested public and complete this environmental screening form.

First, always check DO-12, section 3.2, "Process to Follow" in determining whether the action is categorically excluded from additional NEPA analyses. Other sections within DO-12, including sections 2.9 and 2.10; 3.5; 4.5(G)(4) and (G)(5), and 5.4(F), should also be consulted in determining the appropriate NEPA pathway. Complete the following tasks: conduct a site visit or ensure that staff is familiar with the site's specifics; consult with affected agencies, and/or tribes; and interested public and complete this environmental screening form.

If your action is described in DO-12 section 3.3, "CE's for Which No Formal Documentation is Necessary," follow the instructions indicated in that section.

If your action is not described in DO-12, section 3.3, and IS described in section 3.4, AND you



checked yes or identified “data needed to determine” impacts in any block in section D (Mandatory Criteria), this is an indication that there is potential for significant impacts to the human environment, therefore, you must prepare an EA or EIS or supply missing information to determine context, duration and intensity of impacts.

If your action is described in section 3.4 and NO is checked for all boxes in section D (Mandatory Criteria), AND there are either no effects or **all** of the potential effects identified in Section C (Potential Resource Effects to Consider) are of negligible to minor intensity, usually there is no potential for significant impacts and an EA or EIS is not required. If, however, during internal scoping and further investigation, resource effects still remain unknown, or are at the minor to moderate level of intensity, and the potential for significant impacts may be likely, an EA or EIS is required.

In all cases, data collected to determine the appropriate NEPA pathway must be included in the administrative record.

G. INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM SIGNATORIES *(All interdisciplinary team members must sign.)*

By signing this form, you affirm the following: you have either completed a site visit or are familiar with the specifics of the site; you have consulted with affected agencies and tribes; and you, to the best of your knowledge, have answered the questions posed in the checklist correctly.

Interdisciplinary Team Leader Name	Discipline/Field of Expertise	Date
Technical Specialists Names	Discipline/Field of Expertise	Date

H. *This section may be filled out either as the project progresses or when environmental documentation is complete.*

National Environmental Policy Act

Data entered by: _____

(Choose one and fill in blanks)

- CE *Complete sections A-F before checking this box.* _____ CE Citation (from 3-4 of DO-12)
(note: actions categorical excluded under NEPA must still be reviewed for compliance with Section 106.)
- EA Public scoping date _____
EA release to public _____ FONSI date _____
- EIS NOI in FR _____ NOA for DEIS _____
NOA for FEIS _____ ROD date _____

Will the EA/EIS be used as the Section 106 compliance document? Yes No If yes, you must notify in advance the SHPO/THPO and ACHP of your intent to do so (36 CFR 800[c]). Date notified: _____



National Historic Preservation Act

Data entered by: _____

- Has the area been surveyed and NRHP resources identified? Yes No
- Archeological resources affected? Yes No
- Historic structures affected? Yes No
- Cultural landscapes affected? Yes No
- Ethnographic resources affected? Yes No (If yes, affected parties contacted? Yes No)

Choose one of the following for determination of effect on National Register eligible or listed resources:

No Historic Properties Affected

Date documentation sent to SHPO/THPO _____

Date of response from SHPO/THPO _____

No Adverse Effect

Programmatic Exclusion (Exclusion # _____)

Date, if appropriate, of letter to SHPO/THPO & ACHP declaring intention of using EA/EIS as Section 106 compliance document _____

Date AEF or combined EA/AEF to SHPO/THPO _____

Date of response from SHPO/THPO _____

Date mitigation completed _____

Adverse Effect

Date, if appropriate, of letter to SHPO/THPO & ACHP declaring intention of using EA/EIS as Section 106 compliance document _____

Date AEF or combined EA/AEF to SHPO/THPO _____

Date to ACHP, if necessary _____

MOA Date _____

Date mitigation completed _____

Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act

Data entered by: _____

Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects or objects of cultural patrimony inadvertently disturbed?
 Yes No (If yes, complete the following.)

Date of discovery _____

Date consultation initiated with affiliated Native American group _____

Date written plan of action signed _____

Were cultural items left in place and the site secured? Yes No (If no, please complete the following.)

Date written notification sent regarding excavation _____

Date written plan of action signed _____

Date Archeological Resources Protection Act permit issued _____

Date excavation completed _____

Dates Notice of Intended Disposition published in newspapers _____



Post Disposition Options

Date claimant took physical custody _____
Date of reburial on federal land _____
Date custody was transferred _____

Endangered Species Act

Data entered by: _____

Any threatened/endangered species in area? Yes No
If species in area No effect Not Likely to Adversely Affect Likely to Adversely Affect
(If checked, consider EIS)
Date to FWS/NMFS _____ Date FWS/NMFS Response _____

Floodplains/Wetlands/§404 Permits

Data entered by: _____

Is project in 100- or 500-year floodplain, flash flood hazard area, or wetlands? Yes No Exempt (See Floodplain Management Guideline, V. Scope, B. Excepted Actions)
If yes, statement of findings approval date _____

404 permit needed? Yes No Date _____
State 401 permit/certification? Yes No Date _____
Note: if 404 permit is needed so is 401 permit.
Tribal Water Quality permit? Yes No Date _____
CZM Consistency determination needed? Yes No Date _____

Other Permits/Laws

Data entered by: _____

Consistent with Wilderness Act Yes No Date _____
Wilderness minimum requirement (tool) decision needed? Yes No Date _____
Wild and scenic river concerns? Yes No Date _____
National Trails concerns? Yes No Date _____
Air Quality consult w/State? Yes No Date _____
Consistent w/Architectural Barriers, Rehabilitation, and Americans with Disabilities Acts? Yes No Date _____
Other _____ Yes No Date _____



I. MITIGATING MEASURES TO BE INCLUDED IN PROJECT:

(Specify here or attach or reference appropriate pages from EA, EIS, FONSI, or ROD)

J. SUPERVISORY SIGNATORY

Based on the environmental impact information contained in the statutory compliance file and in this environmental screening form, environmental documentation for the subject project is complete. If the project involves hot topics or sensitive issues, I have briefed the deputy or regional director.

Recommended:

Compliance Specialist	Telephone Number	Date

Approved:

Superintendent	Telephone Number	Date

